



LOCAL EMERGENCY PLANNING COMMITTEE MINUTES November 18th, 2025 | 3:00 p.m. Physical

Location: Rocky Mountain Emergency Training Center, 3425 Skyway Dr.

1. Introductions

- a. LEPC Board Members:
 - i. *Chairperson* – William Kussman, Retired Unexused absentee
 - ii. *Vice Chairperson* – Rocky Infanger, Wolf Creek FD Present
 - iii. *Secretary* – Mike Chambers, Helena Fire Present
 - iv. *Member At-Large* – Sue Hawthorne, Red Cross Present
- b. County Disaster and Emergency Services:
 - i. *Coordinator* – Kyle Sturgill-Simon Present
 - ii. *Deputy Coordinator* – Autumn Ashdale Present
- c. County Communications:
 - i. *Coordinator* – Betsy Kirkeby Present

2. Old Business

- a. Approval of Minutes – Will Kussman
 - i. Motion: Sue Hawthorne
 - ii. 2nd : Betsy Kirkeby
 - iii. All in favor

3. Presentation

- a. Presentation Name – 83rd CST
 - i. WMD HAZMAT response responsibilities. Can do HAZMAT Identification
 - ii. 22 on staff, 17 are army, rest are air force
 - iii. Bomb techs are at Malmstrom
 - iv. They bring air monitoring equipment and can evaluate certain substances like drugs and other chemicals in trace amounts. They work a lot with the drug task force folks and utilize the FBI standards for identification.
 - v. They are federally funded and are self sustained.
 - vi. They have Decontamination abilities as well as their own communications team
 - vii. They have a medical team with a Physicians Assistant, Medic and a scientist.
 - viii. Their work is presumptive but final diagnosis comes from utilization of a lab.
 - ix. They are free asset that supports but does not take over an incident.
 - x. Do a lot of training with other teams and agencies across the state.
 - xi. Reach out to them if you have any interest.
 - xii. They do troop training missions based on their needs and standards. They also do a version that meets the needs of the team they are working with.
 - xiii. Worked with DEA with drug lab work.
 - xiv. The process is to activate: Formal way is a number to their communications center (MTNG JOC 406-324-3000). The informal way is a direct call to them and they activate themselves for you.
 - xv. Will do event support (ie. Symphony under the stars, MSU and UM Football games)
 - xvi. Do have some equipment that they could loan for certain instances.

4. New Business

- a. Homeland Security Grant update
 - i. Time to start preparing to apply
 - ii. Meant to reduce subseptibility to terrorism
 - iii. Need to be read and ranked by the local LEPC
 - iv. Due to the state by March or April typically
 - v. Review in Feb. by LEPC so have grant applications ready by the January meeting.
- b. Hazardous Materials update – E-Plan
- c. Narcan
 - i. Gillian at Criminal Justice Services has some to share with partners. Reach out to her if you are interested.
- d. Autumn will be sending out a survey about expectations with EM dept. (Kyle and Autumn).
- e. Helena emergency winter shelter update: Emily: One church meeting with the city for approval. Table top at the united on 11/19/25 at 11:00 am.
 - i. Nov. 7th and 8th policy work was done to setup an emergency shelter for those involved.
- f. Chempac policy will be updated soon after the state completes theirs.

5. Training

6. Upcoming Events

7. Attendance

- a. **In Person:**
 - i. Jayson Zander
 - ii. Brad Bragg
 - iii. Jason Grimmis
 - iv. Dan Karlin
 - v. Brent Mikula
 - vi. Candace Payne
 - vii. Jerrod Plant
 - viii. Damian Guzman
 - ix. Michael Higgins
- b. **Virtual:**
 - i. Emily McVeigh
 - ii. Rae Forseth
 - iii. Sarah Sandau
 - iv. Kitty Songer
 - v. Kevin Horne

8. Adjournment

- a. Motion By: Autumn Ashdale
- b. 2nd By: Sue Hawthorne
- c. All in favor